

Contributed

THE NEEDS OF THE HOME MISSION FIELD IN NEW ORLEANS PRESBYTERY.

In making our appeal for help in the support of Home Missions in our Presbytery, the committee first lay before you certain salient facts concerning that work:

1. Consider the vast extent of the territory involved. Our field comprises the whole of extreme Southern Louisiana, and stretches from the Texas border to the Mississippi line. In the main it lies along the several railroads running into our city.

(a) On the Southern Pacific Railroad we have churches at Houma and Thibodaux, cared for by Rev. J. N. Blackburn; at Morgan City, Centerville and Berwick, with Rev. C. A. Hyland as minister; at New Iberia, Abbeville, Gueydan, Wright and several other points, under our French evangelist, Rev. M. R. Paradis.

(b) On the Texas and Pacific are the Gretna and Westwego churches.

(c) On the Illinois Central are churches at Pontchatoula, Arcola, Amite, and preaching stations at Kenner, Hammond, Kentwood and Montpelier. At present there is no resident minister in this great and needy field.

(d) On the Great Northern we have a station at Mandeville, supplied every fifth Sabbath by Rev. J. M. Williams, whose other fields at Covington, Slidell and Madisonville have recently become self-supporting. At Bogalusa there is a church, with Rev. Edmond La Vergne as pastor. This work has developed rapidly, and has become almost immediately self-supporting. In connection with it is a preaching station at Franklinton.

(e) In Livingstone Parish we have a Hungarian church, Rev. John Kovacs, minister.

(f) In New Orleans the Committee have under their jurisdiction the Italian church, Rev. C. Russo, evangelist, and the French church, Rev. P. Ph. Briol, evangelist, and the Berean church (colored) Rev. R. H. Alston, minister.

2. As you can see from the above, we have by no means overtaken our field. There are still many towns in lower Louisiana into which we have never entered, and there are whole sections of the country absolutely destitute of Presbyterianism.

3. We want you to help in this great work, and help at this time is sorely needed, for our treasury is heavily overdrawn.

(a) We must have money to pay back what we owe.

(b) We need enough to pay the salaries of all the men named above. Of course, their several fields help to support them, but as yet they can only do so partially.

(c) We need funds to employ additional men for the ever-growing needs of our work. New towns should be entered at once, and new neighborhoods in the country should be visited and preaching points established and maintained there.

(d) We need the money to employ a city missionary to work in the prisons and asylums, and to organize and develop

Sunday schools in those sections of New Orleans which we have failed, heretofore, to reach, and to help evangelize the great un-churched masses of our city.

Send all contributions promptly to Mr. John E. Rodd, Treasurer, 701 South Peters street, New Orleans.

George Summey, Chairman.

J. C. Barr, Secretary.

J. W. Caldwell, Ass't Sec'y.

John E. Rodd, Treasurer.

C. L. Nourse.

T. G. Hardie.

Henry Ginder.

GOVERNOR GLENN IN TEXAS.

Time is now growing short in which to arrange for the visit of Governor Glenn, of North Carolina, who is to spend the month of April in Texas. It is our desire to get all the facts before the churches that he is to visit, that they may plan to the best interests of the cause. The final itinerary has been decided upon.

Gainesville, March 30; Sherman, March 31 and April 1; Abilene, April 2 and 3; Dallas, April 4 and 5; Fort Worth, April 6 and 7; Waco, April 8 and 9; San Antonio, April 11 and 12; Corsicana, April 13 and 14; Austin, April 15 and 16; Houston, April 18 and 19; Galveston, April 20 and 21; Orange, April 22, thence to New Orleans and eastward.

The primary purpose of the visit of Governor Glenn is to advance the cause of Home Missions in our church. This should never be lost sight of. While we desire to invite all other denominations to join with us in welcoming and hearing Governor Glenn, we must remember that he is here to stir up and create an interest in the Home Missions of the Southern Presbyterian Church, and to give an opportunity to those who do desire to give of their means to this cause.

The plan of the Central Committee at Atlanta is that each church shall pay the expenses of Governor Glenn while in their city, and his railroad fare from the last point visited to that city. It is quite possible in Texas that a fairer means will be devised by which each church can pay in a prorated share of the entire traveling expenses to headquarters and have all expenses paid from here. That, however, is in the future.

We are now at a crisis in Home Mission work. It must go forward. When a man of national importance gives his time and talents to bringing this great cause to the attention of the Church, it is our duty to at least secure him a representative audience and endeavor to make it possible for him to speak to all those who have the means to support the cause. At Birmingham, men actually begged to be allowed to give. The churches are able to give. They only need to be brought face to face with the facts.

Finally, the watchword now should be "Work". Get your committees to working, get the people of the smaller churches aroused, get people to hear Governor Glenn who should be interested, and who can do something for the cause. The Synodical Committee will do its best, but the success or failure of Governor Glenn's visit depends on you.

W. T. Read,

Secretary to Synodical Committee.

THE TEXAS PRESBYTERIAN ENCAMPMENT.

The Texas Presbyterian Encampment will be held this year at the Westminster Assembly grounds, one mile south of Kerrville, Texas, from July 22 to August 10. The Encampment will, as heretofore, be divided into three conferences. From July 22 to July 28, it will be under the auspices of the Synodical Committee of Home Missions, of which the Rev. J. P. Robertson, of Sherman, Texas, is chairman. This conference will be addressed by workers from the field, and by men who have made a special study of the subject of Home Missions, especially as it affects the Presbyterian Church in Texas. Judging from the interest and enthusiasm aroused in the Home Mission Conference, held last year, we may expect that this year's conference will be even better and more far-reaching in its results.

The week beginning July 29 and ending August 4 will be given up to the consideration of the foreign mission work, and will be in charge of Rev. R. M. Hall, D. D., of Galveston, Texas, who is chairman of the Synod's Foreign Mission Committee. Dr. Chester, of Nashville, Tenn., and at least two foreign missionaries, will be present and lend their aid, and in addition there will be a number of addresses by laymen of Texas who have this work on their hearts.

From August 5th to August 10th will be devoted to the consideration of Sunday School Work. This part of the program will be under the supervision of Rev. W. L. Hickman, of Texarkana, Ark-Tex.

In addition to these conferences, Dr. R. E. Vinson, of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary, at Austin, Texas, will have a daily Bible class. Those who have attended the previous encampments need to have nothing further said with regard to Dr. Vinson's work. He has always made the encampment attractive by his interesting Bible classes.

Rev. T. F. Gallaher, of Sulphur Springs, Texas, will have charge of the music, which of itself insures this part of the program to be well taken care of.

The program throughout is so arranged as to leave all of the afternoons free for recreation and rest.

The fishing, mountain climbing, bathing, boating, tennis playing, etc., have always appealed to the people who have attended these encampments, and every effort will be made to make these features even more interesting in the future.

A number of people have leased lots on the ground, and are making preparations to build small cottages, so that they may be able to spend the entire summer at this beautiful place, which we hope will become the rallying point for all Presbyterians in the southwest. At the same time, we do not debar any people of good character who may wish to come and sojourn with us here.

For those who will not have cottages of their own, there is an ample supply of tents, cots, and other camping paraphernalia which can be rented at a reasonable price. The dining hall on the ground will be open, and meals will be served at this place under the superintendency of an efficient matron.

The management is at present work-